

Message Text

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20

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

DPW-01 IO-12 OMB-01 GAC-01 RSR-01 /097 W

----- 120385

R 200315 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0441

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

UNCLAS SAIGON 06811

FOLLOWING TEL FROM CAN THO RECEIVED APRIL 19, 1973

SENT ACTION AMEMBASSY SAIGON IS REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO:

QUOTE

UNCLAS CAN THO 0207

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI, MOPS, VS

SUBJECT: ABC CORRESPONDENT IS LIGHTLY WOUNDED AT HONG NGU

REFERENCE: CAN THO 0201

1. THE "REPORTED" GVN INVASION OF CAMBODIA IS ATTRACTING LARGE NUMBER OF JOURNALISTS. THE LATEST GROUP ARRIVED APRIL 17. IN ADDITION TO ABC, REUTERS, AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE, AND NBC HAVE SENT CORRESPONDENTS. SEVERAL, AT THE CONSULATE GENERAL'S SUGGESTION, VISITED THE HONG NGU CAMPAIGN.

2. FRANK MARIANO OF ABC OBTAINED A SLIGHT LEAD ON HIS COMPETITORS AND RECEIVED A GUIDED TOUR OF PART OF THE BATTLE AREA NORTHWEST OF HONG NGU ALONG THE MEKONG VERY NEAR THE CAMBODIAN BORDER. IN THE COMPANY OF BGEN DI, CG 9 TH ARVN DIVISION, MR. MARIANO AND HIS CAMERA CREW FILMED A HEAVY CONTACT AND MORTAR EXCHANGE BETWEEN ARVN AND NVA FORCES. IN THE COURSE OF THE TOUR MARIANO RECEIVED A VERY SLIGHT SHELL SCRATCH. ONE OF HIS VIETNAMESE CAMERAMEN WAS ALSO
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WOUNDED LIGHTLY, BUT IS WALKING AROUND. MARIANO AND CREW SPENT
LAST NIGHT IN CHAU DOC CITY AND RETURNED TO SAIGON THIS
MORNING APRIL 19 BY CHARTERED PLAN E.

3. CORRESPONDENTS FROM NBC, REUTERS, AND AFP ALSO VISITED HONG
NGU ON APRIL 18. THESE CORRESPONDENTS WERE BRIEFED BY MGEN NGHI,
COMMANDING GENERAL MR IV, ON THE SITUATION AT THE 9 TH DIVISION
FORWARD HEADQUARTERS. THE AFP CORRESPONDENT INFORMED THE
CONSULATE GENERAL HE WAS QUITE SATISFIED WITH HIS TRIP AND AGREED
THE THIEN BINH INVASION WAS A NON- EVENT . BARNES
UNQUOTE.
BUNKER

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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